

ELECTRONIC CAMERA AND METHOD WITH FILL FLASH FUNCTION

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and camera for electronic image capture provide an electronic image capture device, a scanning aperture shutter located to control light energy
5 received by the image capture device, a flash unit oriented to illuminate an image scene, a photocell unit adapted for sensing visible spectrum energy and infrared spectrum energy received from the image scene, and an exposure control system responsive to the photocell unit and operatively connected to the scanning aperture shutter and the flash unit. The exposure control system is adapted to control an
10 amount of fill flash energy received from the image scene in relation to visible ambient light energy received from the image scene during image capture by illuminating the flash unit once a predetermined amount of ambient visible spectrum energy is sensed by the photocell unit and by extinguishing the flash unit once a predetermined amount of infrared energy is sensed by the photocell unit.